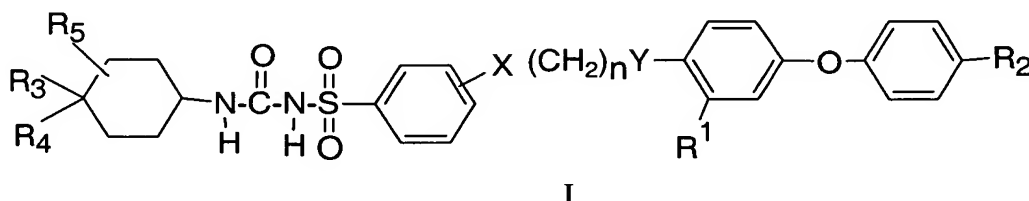


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A compound of Formula I, ~~or a including~~ pharmaceutically acceptable salts ~~salt~~ thereof



wherein R¹ is selected from the group consisting of H, Cl, F, and C₁₋₄alkyl, where C₁₋₄alkyl is optionally substituted with 1-3 halogen atoms independently selected from F and Cl;

R² is selected from the group consisting of H, Cl, F, C₁₋₄alkyl, OC₁₋₄alkyl, and -S(O)₂CH₃, where C₁₋₄alkyl and OC₁₋₄alkyl are optionally substituted with 1-3 halogen atoms independently selected from F and Cl;

R³, R⁴ and R⁵ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, F, Cl, C₁₋₃alkyl, and -OC₁₋₃alkyl, where C₁₋₃alkyl and -OC₁₋₃alkyl are optionally substituted with 1-3 halogens independently selected from F and Cl;

X and Y are each independently selected from the group consisting of O, S, SO, and SO₂; and

n represents an integer selected from 1, 2, 3, and 4.

2. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The compound according to Claim 1 wherein R² is selected from H, F, -OC₁₋₃ alkyl, and -S(O)₂CH₃, where -OC₁₋₃ alkyl is optionally substituted with 1-3 F atoms.

3. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The compound according to Claim 1, wherein

R¹ is selected from Cl and n-propyl;

R² is selected from H and F; and

R³, R⁴ and R⁵ are H.

4. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The compound according to Claim 1, wherein R² is -OCH₂CH₃ or -OCH₂CF₃.

5. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The compound according to Claim 1, wherein R⁵ is H; and R³ and R⁴ are each independently selected from H, F, CH₃, CF₃, -OCH₃, -OCF₃, -OCH₂CH₃ and -OCH₂CF₃.
~~In other preferred groups of compounds, R³ and R⁴ are H, and R⁵ is selected from the group consisting of H, F, CH₃, CF₃, -OCH₃, -OCF₃, -OCH₂CH₃ and -OCH₂CF₃.~~

6. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The compound according to Claim 1, wherein X and Y are each independently selected from O and S.

7. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The compound according to Claim 1, wherein X and Y are each O.

8. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The compound according to Claim 1, wherein the group X is attached to the phenyl of the N-cyclohexylaminocarbonyl benzenesulfonamide moiety at the position that is meta to the sulfonamide group.

9. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The compound according to Claim 1, wherein the group X is attached to the phenyl of the N-cyclohexylaminocarbonyl benzenesulfonamide moiety at the position that is para to the sulfonamide group.

10. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The compound according to Claim 1, wherein n is 1-3.

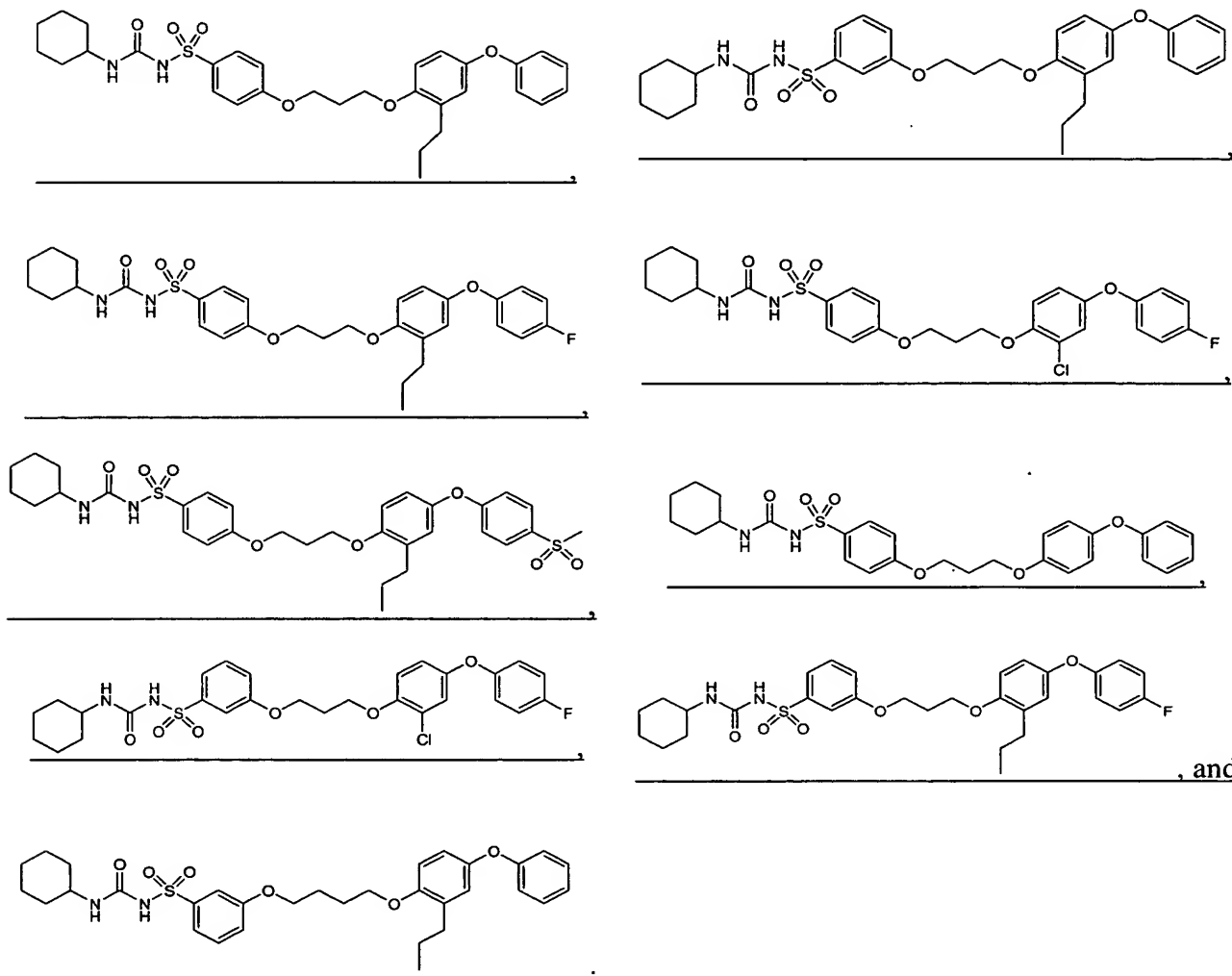
11. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The compound according to Claim 1, wherein n is 3 or 4.

12. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The compound according to Claim 1, wherein X and Y are O; n is an integer selected from 1-3; R³, R⁴ and R⁵ are H; R¹ is selected from n-propyl and Cl; and R² is selected from H, F, and -S(O)₂CH₃.

13. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The compound according to Claim 1, wherein R¹ is C₂₋₃ alkyl, which is optionally substituted with 1-3 F atoms.

14. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The compound according to Claim 1, wherein R¹ is n-propyl.

15. (currently amended) A The compound which is selected from the compounds below, or a in
~~Examples 1-9, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.~~ salt thereof:



, and

16. (original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

17. (original) A method for treating hyperglycemia in a mammalian or human patient having non-insulin dependent (Type 2) diabetes mellitus which comprises administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

- 18. Canceled
- 19. Canceled
- 20. Canceled
- 21. Canceled
- 22. Canceled
- 23. Canceled
- 24. Canceled

25. (original) A method of treating or controlling one or more diseases, disorders, or conditions selected from the group consisting of (1) non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus (NIDDM), (2) hyperglycemia, (3) low glucose tolerance, (4) insulin resistance, (5) obesity, (6) lipid disorders, (7) dyslipidemia, (8) hyperlipidemia, (9) hypertriglyceridemia, (10) hypercholesterolemia, (11) low HDL levels, (12) high LDL levels, (13) atherosclerosis and its sequelae, (14) vascular restenosis, (15) irritable bowel syndrome, (16) inflammatory bowel disease, including Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, (17) other inflammatory conditions, (18) pancreatitis, (19) abdominal obesity, (20) neurodegenerative disease, (21) retinopathy, (22) neoplastic conditions, (23) adipose cell tumors, (24) adipose cell carcinomas, such as liposarcoma, (25) prostate cancer and other cancers, including gastric, breast, bladder and colon cancers, (26) angiogenesis, (27) Alzheimer's disease, (28) psoriasis, (29) high blood pressure, (30) Syndrome X, (31) ovarian hyperandrogenism (polycystic ovarian syndrome), and other disorders where insulin resistance is a component, said method comprising the administration of an effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

- 26. canceled
- 27. canceled
- 28. canceled
- 29. canceled
- 30. canceled
- 31. canceled
- 32. canceled

33. (original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising (1) a compound of Claim 1, (2) one or more compounds selected from the group consisting of

(a) insulin sensitizers including (i) PPAR gamma agonists such as the glitazones (e.g. troglitazone, pioglitazone, englitazone, MCC-555, rosiglitazone, and the like), and compounds disclosed in WO97/27857, 97/28115, 97/28137 and 97/27847; (ii) biguanides such as metformin and phenformin;

(iii) protein tyrosine phosphatase-1B (PTP-1B) inhibitors, and (iv) dipeptidyl peptidase IV (DP-IV) inhibitors;

(b) insulin or insulin mimetics;

(c) sulfonylureas such as tolbutamide and glipizide, or related materials;

(d) α -glucosidase inhibitors (such as acarbose);

(e) cholesterol lowering agents such as (i) HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors (lovastatin, simvastatin, pravastatin, fluvastatin, atorvastatin, rivastatin, itavastatin, ZD-4522 and other statins), (ii) sequestrants (cholestyramine, colestipol, and dialkylaminoalkyl derivatives of a cross-linked dextran), (iii) nicotinic alcohol, nicotinic acid or a salt thereof, (iv) PPAR α agonists such as fenofibric acid derivatives (gemfibrozil, clofibrate, fenofibrate and benzafibrate), (v) PPAR α / γ dual agonists, such as KRP-297, (vi) inhibitors of cholesterol absorption, such as for example beta-sitosterol, (vii) acyl CoA:cholesterol acyltransferase inhibitors, such as for example avasimibe, and (viii) anti-oxidants, such as probucol;

(f) PPAR δ agonists such as those disclosed in WO97/28149;

(g) antiobesity compounds such as fenfluramine, dexfenfluramine, phentiramine, sulbitramine, orlistat, neuropeptide Y5 inhibitors, and β_3 adrenergic receptor agonists;

(h) an ileal bile acid transporter inhibitor; and

(i) agents intended for use in inflammatory conditions such as aspirin, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, glucocorticoids, azulfidine, and cyclo-oxygenase 2 selective inhibitors; and

(3) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.